

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, UR, US

SUBJECT: CIVIL AVIATION MINISTRY APPROVES PAA SUMMER
SCHEDULE

1. PAN AMERICAN (PAA) LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE DRAHORAD INFORMED
E/C COUNSELOR TODAY THAT MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SAMORUKOV)
HAD APPROVED PAA SUMMER SCHEDULE APRIL 26 - OCTOBER 29.
HOWEVER, SAMORUKOV HAD STATED ORALLY THAT APPROVAL WAS "UNDER
PROTEST" SINCE PAA INTENDS TO USE BOEING-747 ON NEW YORK-
COPENHAGEN LEG OF FLIGHT BETWEEN JUNE 10 AND SEPTEMBER 12.
ACCORDING TO DRAHORAD, SAMORUKOV ARGUED THAT POINT #7 (GAUGE)
OF ANNEX TO JUNE 1973 PROTOCOL ON AIR TRANSPORT SERVICES
IS VALID ONLY IF POINT #5 (FREQUENCIES IS IN EFFECT). SINCE
THE LATTER IS CURRENTLY NOT IN FORCE, NEITHER IS THE FORMER.

2. DRAHORAD SAYS HE RESPONDED THAT PAA HAD USED B-747'S
IN 1975 AND 1976 ON NEW YORK-COPENHAGEN LEG AND WOULD RATHER
NOT FLY AT ALL THAN GIVE THEM UP. SAMORUKOV REPLIED THAT
DURING THOSE YEARS POINT #5 OF THE PROTOCOL WAS IN EFFECT,
HENCE CHANGE OF GAUGE WAS WITHIN THE AGREEMENT. (ASKED
IF THIS POINT HAD EVER BEEN RAISED BY SAMORUKOV BEFORE,
DRAHORAD SAID THAT IT HAD.)

3. SIXTEEN PAA CHARTERS SCHEDULED FOR MAY WAS RAISED
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IN DRAHORAD-SAMORUKOV DISCUSSION. DRAHORAD ASSERTED THAT
FIVE ARE "FERRY FLIGHTS," WITH ONLY 11 BEING GENUINE
CHARTERS. SAMORUKOV STATED THAT HE WANTED SOME INDICATION
FROM PAA AND THE USG THAT "AT LEAST" ELEVEN EXTRA SECTIONS
WOULD BE APPROVED FOR AEROFLOT THIS SUMMER. DRAHORAD
RESPONDED THAT IN HIS OWN VIEW THESE EXTRA SECTIONS WOULD
PROBABLY BE APPROVED ON AN AD HOC BASIS, BUT HE CAUTIONED

AGAINST RAISING SUBJECT FORMALLY. SAMORUKOV STATED THAT HE NEVERTHELESS WANTED THE EMBASSY TO KNOW ABOUT THE SOVIET WISH (I.E., HE WANTED DRAHORAD TO TELL US).

4. SAMORUKOV ALSO COMPLAINED ANEW ABOUT PAA RESTRICTIONS ON AEROFLOT ACTIVITIES, WHICH HE AGAIN SAID WENT BEYOND USG STRICTURES. DRAHORAD APPARENTLY GAVE HIM NO SATISFACTION.

5. DRAHORAD ALSO MENTIONED A RECENT DISCUSSION WITH INTOURIST, THE SOVIET TRAVEL AGENCY, WHICH HAD EXPRESSED ITS CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBLE CANCELLATION OF PAA CHARTERS, WHICH WOULD COST INTOURIST MONEY, TOO.

6. COMMENT: LATEST SAMORUKOV VOLLEY ON GUAGE AND EXTRA SECTIONS VIA PAA REP SEEM CONSISTENT WITH APPARENT SOVIET POLICY OF KEEPING HEAT ON PAA AND USG AT LEVEL WHICH WOULD NOT TRIGGER FURTHER REDUCTION IN SOVIET FREQUENCIES.
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